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The U.S. Why

Washington's Significance Often Overlooked

action was scratched

Hint Gen. Harkins Is

The episode is told at length here of achieving co-ordination among agencies involved in this nation's far

It also illuminates, however, the fate of the war against the Communists as well as name.

IT IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER Paul Harkins, U.S. military commander, the reactions and responses generated. There is some evidence that Harkins' premise of the State Department is the fate of the war against the Communists.

For many of the U.S. military war is being won out in the horrendous in Saigon and Washington might liberal notions of what Dien's re-

This accounts for some of the August and lingers to this day. ment, it seems almost meritable lines of authority to and from Sa-

Kennedy Builds Ch

In other countries, however, structure in which the agencies are fairly clear

At the top of this are mission. From the day Eisenhower years and primacy of the Eisenhower emphasized.

ON MAY 29, 1961, a directive to all ambass

which they are "in person of the U.S. government" in

"You are in charge of the mission," wrote Mr. Kennedy, the personnel of the Department

service, but also the representation of the U.S. in the "agencies" with programs and The major departments and agencies involved.

Troubles in South Viet Nam have raised the question whether American diplomacy sometimes gets tangled in its own web.

There have been reports of disagreement among the military, the Central Intelligence Agency and the State Department in Saigon. Such disagreement could seriously hamper the main job, which is to stamp out the Communist Viet Cong guerrillas.

To find out who is, or should be, running the show, The Daily News asked its Washington Bureau for a report on the assigned roles of the various departments and agencies not only in Saigon but around the world.

here — that is, Military Assistance Advisory Group. There is no war going on. But the Pakistanis are our allies. It was from a base in Pakistan that Francis Gary Powers took off in his U-2 spy plane on the fateful day that was to end with his capture deep inside Soviet territory.)

A lot of U.S. planes and other military equipment has gone to Pakistan. The MAAG unit is there to maintain control of it and to train the Pakistanis in its use.

THERE ARE 24 of these MAAG outfits stationed overseas. The biggest is in South Viet Nam. The 14,000 U.S. soldiers who are fighting and dying there beside the South Vietnamese in a guerrilla war against the Viet Cong are all listed as "military advisers."

Recently, there has been confusion and controversy about the situation in South Viet Nam. It has not reached the proportions of the MacArthur-Truman argument during the Korean War.

Nothing since then has achieved the magnitude of the dispute — which ended in Gen. MacArthur's being relieved of command — as to whether the war should be limited or extended to Communist China.

The controversy in South Viet Nam revolves around the question of whether the war

Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge and Gen. Paul D. Harkins do not appear to have hit it off as harmoniously as did Harkins and Lodge's predecessor, Frederick Nolting.

In the second Cuban crisis, a year ago, the problem was so grave the President formed a special Washington group to deal with it. There were the regular members of the National Security Council, which advises him on foreign policy, plus his brother, Atty. Gen. Robert Kennedy, and some other key members of the government.

This executive committee of the National Security Council, as it was called, argued intensely over what measures should be taken to deal with the Soviet missiles that had been sneaked into Cuba.

In the end, it was decided to build up an invasion force in Florida but not to use it except as a last resort. An air strike against the missile sites was also ruled out, unless there had to be an invasion.

"ABOUT 90 per cent of the time, Defense and State go their separate ways," says one knowledgeable official at the Pentagon.

"Ten per cent of the time we get involved, either because we feel they are getting into something we can't support, or are keeping out of something we think we should